

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Human or animal bones are used to house and nurture other useful tissues. Once inside the bones, the transferred cells may become attached to the bone; and the blood vessels within the bone provide nutrition. The transferred cells or tissues can be injected as a solution of individual cells or small clumps of cells. Large numbers of cells supported with an extracellular matrix scaffold can be surgically implanted or injected. The extracellular matrix can be synthetic, resorbing, or derived from biologic sources. To assist with transfer, the cells or tissue may be contained in a bag before being placed in the bone. The non-bone materials may either be removed from the bone following sufficient growth and nourishment, or the biologic materials may remain in place to provide one or more desirable functions. For example, a bone's access to the blood stream should help the islet cells monitor blood glucose, and release insulin into the blood stream.